

are not permitted to silently and anonymously interfere with the science behind ESA decisions.

However, this legislation shedding light on the Department of the Interior decisionmaking go hand in hand with additional whistleblower protections for government employees, such as those contained in H.R. 985, the Whistleblower Protection Enhancement Act of 2007 that overwhelmingly passed the House in March of this year by a vote of 331–94. As we look to expand the transparency of ESA decisions, we must also ensure that those employees at the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of the Interior who are acting in the best interests of the Nation are not subject to reprisal.

IMPROVING FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE TO DEFEND THE NATION AND THE CONSTITUTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, in the interest of national security, I reluctantly voted in favor of H.R. 3356, the Improving Foreign Intelligence Surveillance to Defend the Nation and the Constitution Act of 2007. Although I ultimately supported this bill, I am concerned that this bill provided expanded authority to the Attorney General, who I believe has previously violated U.S. law regarding the FISA courts and has breached the trust of the American people. If this were a permanent change to law, I would have voted against it because I believe provisions of this bill could be abused and allow the Attorney General to authorize wiretaps on American citizens without a warrant. Since it expires in 120 days, I am willing to support it as a stop-gap measure. Should we hear any evidence that the Attorney General or any other administration official has blatantly abused provisions of H.R. 3356, I will call for and support aggressive investigations into their actions.

IMPROVING FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE SURVEILLANCE TO DEFEND THE NATION AND THE CONSTITUTION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 3, 2007

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, one lesson we Americans learn as children is that we should guard our liberty and our security with equal vigor.

The FISA bill before us, while reinstating the power to direct surveillance toward foreigners, protects Americans in two key ways:

1. An independent judge, and not the attorney general or anyone else in the executive branch, will rule on surveillance applications.
2. Nothing in this bill immunizes any potential illegal surveillance.

Americans expect accountability, that their private lives remain private, and that their own

government is one they need not fear, especially when we face difficult times. This bill strikes the appropriate balance between liberty and security.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROBERT LEE MOTT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the City of Chickasaw and indeed the entire State of Alabama lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory. Robert L. Mott was a successful businessman and restaurateur whose kindness and willingness to help others had a strong impact on the lives of so many throughout south Alabama.

Known to his community as "Papa Bear," Robert started his own restaurant, Papa Bear's Seafood, 12 years ago. He also owned Mott-White's Fixtures, a restaurant equipment business in downtown Mobile. Robert's colleagues remember him as a fair businessman who was a pleasure to conduct business with.

Prior to his career in the restaurant business, Robert worked in the engineering division of the Alabama State Highway Department, in addition to serving in the Army National Guard. He was active in his community, often helping to set up local church facilities.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community member and friend to many throughout south Alabama. He will be deeply missed by those who knew him. Robert Lee Mott is survived by his wife of 46 years, Dorothy Mott; 3 daughters, Robbin Stevens of Gulfcrest, Sandra Ivy of Chickasaw, and Kimberly Tait of Fort Morgan; his mother, Christine Mott of Tibbie; 2 brothers, Roger Mott of Mobile and Coyette Mott of Sarasota, Florida; and 7 grandchildren. May his family know that they are in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR MARVIN H. CARUTHERS

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Marvin H. Caruthers on his recent selection as a recipient of the National Medal of Science. With this award Professor Caruthers officially joins the ranks of the finest minds to contribute to American science since Congress established the award in 1959.

Having held a faculty post at the University of Colorado at Boulder for the past 34 years, Professor Caruthers conducts the sort of cutting-edge research that consistently keeps CU-Boulder on the map for technological advancement and academic progress. The University deserves credit for creating an atmosphere that allows minds like Professor Caruthers' to flourish, and I can say confidently that the 2nd District, the State of Colorado, and the country at large all benefit enormously from that investment.

Professor Caruthers is the cofounder of both Amgen, the world's largest biotechnology company, and Applied Biosystems, a company that has commercialized Professor Caruthers' work on DNA synthesizing. While his research is extraordinary in its own right, making his findings commercially available is how this important work manifests as life-saving technology, advanced understanding of human biology, and high-tech jobs for American workers. Professor Caruthers' work gives us a textbook example of how advanced research becomes a guiding light for human advancement.

I hope my colleagues will join me in not only recognizing the past accomplishments of Professor Marvin Caruthers that have warranted his acceptance of the National Medal of Science, but also in wishing him all the best in his future pursuits.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 815 and rollcall No. 816, I did not vote as a protest of the actions of the majority related to rollcall No. 814. Had I voted, I would have voted nay on rollcall No. 815 and nay on rollcall No. 816.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN NOXAKIS

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the distinguished life of John Noxakis, who entered God's eternal paradise far too soon for those of us he leaves behind in this ephemeral veil of tears.

A life-long Detroit proud of his ethnic heritage, John embodied the Greek's love of food and music. He was a gifted culinary artist, whose dishes delighted and sated diners throughout our community; and, in his purest gift, he was an unparalleled percussionist. It was through John's drumming my brother and I met him. We three formed the nucleus of the little acclaimed and over amplified band, "The Flying Squirrels"; and, cramped together on the "cover band" roller coaster, off and on we jammed our way through nearly twenty years of small gigs and smaller paychecks. Through it all, John was the one person in the band whose gentility and sanity kept an often tempestuous combination of musical prima donnas kicking out the jams, instead of killing each other. He was true to this task until his tragic and unexpected death; and it has taken some time—is still taking time, may forever take time—for me to realize I will never see him ascend his set, hear his beat, and know my brother from another mother is right in time with every thought seeping through my strings.

Yes, in a world where too many crave at all costs to be "great," John cared enough to be good. He was a loving brother to Michael and Katina; a devoted uncle to Christine, Sophia